

**Introduced by Senators Figueroa, Chesbro, Ducheny, Kuehl,
Ortiz, Romero, Soto, and Speier**

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Berg, Chan, Chu, Daucher, Garcia,
Goldberg, Hancock, Shirley Horton, Liu, Matthews, Oropeza,
Pavley, and Wolk)

August 15, 2005

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 59—Relative to Pain Awareness
Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 59, as introduced, Figueroa. Pain Awareness Month.

This measure would proclaim the month of September 2005 as Pain
Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Pain is one of our nation's serious health
2 problems. More than 75 million Americans live with chronic
3 pain caused by various diseases or disorders, and each year
4 nearly 25 million Americans suffer with acute pain; and
5 WHEREAS, Though medical knowledge and technology exist
6 to relieve or greatly ease pain, most pain is untreated,
7 undertreated, or improperly treated, and many health care
8 professionals are still unaware of how to effectively treat pain.
9 Most people with pain, including those at the end of life, get little
10 or no relief; and
11 WHEREAS, People who suffer from chronic pain are often
12 stigmatized and marginalized and are often not informed about
13 the right to effective pain assessment and management; and
14 WHEREAS, The California-based Partners for Understanding
15 Pain is a growing coalition of pain sufferers, physicians, nurses,

1 social workers, pharmacists, therapists, civic leaders, nonprofit
2 organizations, and health care businesses whose mission is to
3 improve the quality of life for people in California experiencing
4 pain; and

5 WHEREAS, It is the collective mission of this movement to
6 provide practical information for people with pain, inform health
7 care professionals about pain management, and serve as an
8 advocate for people experiencing pain; now, therefore, be it

9 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
10 *thereof concurring*, That the month of September 2005 is hereby
11 proclaimed as Pain Awareness Month, and that all Californians
12 are hereby respectfully requested to improve the quality of life
13 for people in California suffering from pain; and be it further

14 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
15 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.